



THIS WEEK IN IRAQ

The Official Newsletter of the Multi-National Force - Iraq

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Hope for Marines, Iraqis

HABBANIYAH — Two years ago, al-Anbar was said to be the most violent province in Iraq. It was a place where the insurgency in Iraq had begun and where the bloodiest battles took place. Today, thanks to the hard work and sacrifices made by the Marines, Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen who served in the area, it has become a model for the rest of Iraq.

Marines of 2nd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 1, have put in countless hours and have risked their lives every day to ensure their area of operations within al-Anbar Province stays that way until they leave Iraq and beyond.

"In the last year, violence in al-Anbar province has dropped 80-90 percent. The reason the province is the way it is now is a result of the hard work the Marines are putting forth every day along with their tactical patience and balance," said Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jim M. Roussell, the assistant intelligence officer for 2nd Battalion, 24th Marines. "This battalion has worked very hard and has done an out

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Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Vanasten, a machine gunner with 24th Marines, patrols through the streets while another Marine provides rear security. Violence in al Anbar province has been reduced 80-90 percent in the last year. Photo by Sgt. Nathaniel Leblanc.

This Week in News ...

MV-22 Osprey
Continues Successes



NY Fireman Serves
with Distinction



Unit Works to Mitigate IED Threat

COB SPEICHER — Improvised explosive devices (IED) are one of the greatest risks to troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Proper handling and disposal of IED is essential for the military, and why all branches work together to safely mitigate this threat.

The 184th Ordnance Battalion, Task Force Troy-North, does just that. The battalion contains six explosive ordnance disposal companies, including two Navy and two Air Force companies.

What does it take to become an explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) operator?

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